Welcome to

St Stephen's Church
Elton Bury

Sunday 8th November 2026

This Week

Today

9.00 Holy Communion with Junior Church

6.00 Choral Evensong

Next Sunday

9.00 Holy Communion with Junior Church

Post Communion Prayer

God of peace, whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom and restored the broken to wholeness of life: look with compassion on the anguish of the world, and by your healing power make whole both people and nations; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

The Pastoral Team are available in the Lady Chapel after the service for prayer and support.

Collect for the third Sunday before Advent

Almighty father, whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the King of all: govern the hearts and minds of those in authority, and bring the families of the nations, divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin, to be subject to his just and gentle rule; who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

This Week's Readings

1st	Amos 5; 18 - 24	NT page	869
2nd	1 Thessalonians 4: 13 - end	NT page	202
Gospel	Matthew 25: 1 - 13	NT page	27
Psalm	70	OT page	543

Flower Donations

Altar

Maureen Cooper in memory of her mum and dad.

Lectern

Hazel Lomas in memory of Gloria Beecraft for 5th November.

If you would like to celebrate an anniversary or commemorate a loved one by placing flowers on the Altar, Lady Chapel, lectern or Book of Remembrance please speak to a member of the flower team, or contact June Berry on 0161 761 2643.

In our Prayers

This week we pray for the members of our community who live or work in Buxton Street, Craig Avenue, Fieldhead Avenue and Knight Street.

We pray for the healing and comfort of those who are ill whether in mind, body or spirit.

We pray today for all who mourn the recent loss of a loved one and those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

As part of Churches Together in Bury we pray for our brothers and sisters at Bury Christian Fellowship especially Rod Fairbrother.

Gluten free host (communion wafers) are available. If you require one please let the Sidespersons or warden know.

Children

There is a creche area at the back of the Lady Chapel on the left for you and your parents to use during our services. There is a Junior Church for children in the Centenary room during the 9.00am service, on most Sundays. There will be songs, readings and crafts for all ages. Speak to Leanne or Carol for more details.

Please join us in the Centenary Room after the 9.00am service for refreshments and fellowship.

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND Diocese of Manchester | CHURCH FOR A DIFFERENT WORLD

We support this valuable work. Please give generously.

Porch boxes

Fire Notice - In the event of fire go through the marked fire exit doors and assemble on Stephen Close.

Hear the holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew - *Glory to you O Lord.*
Matthew 25: 1 - 13
1 "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. 3 When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; 4 but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5 As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. 6 But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' 7 Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' 9 But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' 10 And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. 11 Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us.' 12 But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' 13 Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.
This is the gospel of the Lord - *Praise to you O Christ.*

Amos 5: 18 - 24
18 Alas for you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord? It is darkness, not light; 19 as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear; or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake. 20 Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? 21 I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. 22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. 23 Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. 24 But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.
This is the word of the Lord - *Thanks be to God.*

What's on

Today	
2.00	Children's Panto Rehearsal in the Centenary Room
Monday 9th	
1.30pm	Craft Group
7.00pm	Study Group
Wednesday 11th	
1.30pm	Midweekers - Play Your Cards Right
7.00	Mother's Union
Thursday 12th	
7.00pm	Drama Group in school
Friday 13th	
6.00pm	Children's' Drama Group
Sunday 15th November	
2.00pm	Children's Panto Rehearsal in the Centenary Room

Favourite Hymns
Since September we have introduced a favourite hymn selection for the recessional hymn. A member of our congregation will choose a hymn and introduce it to the congregation after the notices. If you would like to choose your favourite hymn please let the vicar, Sam know.

The Christmas Fayre date is Saturday 5th December 11am to 3pm. Invite your friends and neighbours. This is one of our major fund raisers of the year. See the wardens if you wish to volunteer your help on the day.
Calling all Bakers to bake cakes to sell in the cafe at the Christmas Fayre.
Raffle prizes needed please throughout November for the various future events.
If people have unwanted Christmas Decorations etc that we could sell on the Christmas craft stall please let Christine know.
June Berry needs prizes for the tombola stall.

Jane is running the Christmas Hamper draw again. If you can provide hamper baskets please bring them in for her.

The Mothers' Union this Christmas is supporting The Red Door. A local charity for the homeless. They are asking for donations of new ladies/mens socks and new knickers/boxer shorts medium/large. Any donations give to Anne Broadrick or Carol Heyes.

The Annual Quiz is Saturday 21st November at 7.30pm. Tickets are on sale from Janet Glimartin. £10 including a pie and peas supper.

How to Contact Us

Vicar - Rev Sam Eccleston
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Warden - Carol Heyes - Tel: 07354902873

Email: **ststephenelton@gmail.com**

News sheet deadline - please send all your news items to Tony Parsons by 7.00pm each Thursday.
Email tony.parsons67@gmail.com